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HALIBURTON COUNTY'S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

The Highlander



Thursday 8 November 2012 | Issue 57



Photo by Warren Riley

Piper Fraser MacDonald leads the Haliburton and Minden curling teams onto the ice for the opening ceremonies of the Minden/Haliburton Seniors Mixed Bonspiel on Nov. 7. For full story, see page 22.

HHHS scores top choice for CEO

By Matthew Desrosiers

There's a new CEO in town and his name is Varouj Eskedjian.

Eskedjian was announced as the new president and chief executive officer of Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) on Nov. 2.

He officially starts on Jan. 3, 2013.

"We got a great candidate," said Hugh Nichol, vice-chair of the board of directors. "He was clearly our first choice."

When former president and CEO Paul Rosebush resigned earlier this year, HHHS hired a recruitment firm to assist in their search for a replacement.

The firm was able to produce a long-list of 11 candidates, five of which were chosen by the board for an intensive

interview process.

"It is a very important position for not only our organization but the community," Nichol said. "That's why it's so great to get him. I think he has strong personal skills [and] he's had 25 years of hospital experience."

In his current position as vice-president of diagnostics and support, and the chief information officer at Ross Memorial Hospital in Lindsay, Eskedjian is already familiar with the HHHS organization through shared services.

"He has experience, knows central Ontario and understands our hospital. We know he's going to be a great fit."

Eskedjian said he was looking forward to starting the new position.

"I'm quite excited about it," he said. "I think it's a great

organization already. It's always good to build upon a good organization as opposed to coming into an environment where you really have to clean up on it."

Despite recognizing a lot of strengths within the HHHS organization, he is already thinking about how he can improve the hospitals.

"[HHHS] provides a good range of services to the community," he said. "I want to see if it's possible, through partnerships, to try to improve on the quality of the services and potentially on the range of services that are provided to the Minden and Haliburton communities."

He might find it difficult to accomplish that with no funding increases.

See "Funding" on page 17



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Highlander news

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by Ian Johnson

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Highlands East assessments up

By Lisa Harrison

Municipal property assessment changes are all over the map for residences in Haliburton County this year.

In a presentation to county council at its Oct. 24 meeting, Judy Piggott of the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) outlined comparative rate increases for specific residential property types in the lower municipal tiers. Piggott is MPAC's municipal relations representative for the Peterborough office.

She told council property assessment notices are being mailed to about 31,000 property owners as part of this year's province-wide update, which happens every four years. The residential assessment mailing period is mid-September to mid-November. Businesses are to receive notices from mid-to late November.

Focusing on residential assessments, Piggott said county property values have increased by an average of about 4.3 per cent since the last assessment in 2008, with waterfront property increasing by about 3.1 per cent. Increases will be phased in over the next four years.

Any decreases are fully implemented in the first year, so county property owners will see an average decrease of 1.5 per cent in 2013.

Piggott also charted value changes for non-waterfront single family detached homes and waterfront properties in each municipality.

Highlands East topped the chart for the non-waterfront properties with a 9.1 per cent value increase. Waterfront property values increased by 2.6 per cent.

Anticipating council questions, Piggott double-checked the Highlands East figures with the residential manager beforehand.

"They did do a review of the market shift based on what they saw in their sales review," she told council. "The sales that were used are supporting what the new assessments are."

The respective value increases for non-waterfront and

waterfront properties for the other municipalities were 0.7 and 5.6 per cent for Minden Hills, 0.9 and 1.6 per cent for Algonquin Highlands, and 0.2 and 2.4 per cent for Dysart et al.

Piggott said when assessing properties, MPAC considers more than 200 variables including location, lot size, living area, age (including adjustments for additions and renovations) and the quality of construction.

According to a notice posted on MPAC's website regarding Haliburton, property taxes don't necessarily increase if the property's assessed value increases; for example, if the increase is the same percentage as the municipal average, there might be no property tax increase for those owners.

Piggott encouraged property owners to access their online account at www.aboutmyproperty.ca.

"It's a tool I'm really excited about and I really think will be beneficial to all property owners."

The site provides confidential, extensive information on each assessed property. This year MPAC has added a copy of the property owner's notice and a quick drop-down box for the owner to indicate whether the information is correct. Owners can also compare their property's value to about 15 other properties in the neighbourhood and community, a feature Piggott called "a fabulous new tool."

Assessment mail-outs include online registration information.

The accuracy rule of thumb is if a property could have been sold on Jan. 1, 2012 for its assessed value, the assessment is accurate. Owners who feel their assessment is inaccurate can file a Request for Reconsideration for a free assessment review, a mandatory first step for any appeal to the independent Assessment Review Board. The deadline is March 31, 2013.

Businesses can file for reconsideration but it's not mandatory. Any appeal must be filed by March 31, 2013.

MPAC's customer contact centre can be reached toll-free at 1-866-296-6722.

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By Mark Arike

Rotary Club donates \$2,000 to library

The Rotary Club of Minden has fulfilled its \$10,000 commitment to the Minden Hills branch of the Haliburton County Public Library with a recent \$2,000 donation. "Minden Rotary has been a huge supporter of our new Minden library," said Reeve Barb Reid at a regular meeting of council on Oct. 25. "It's been organizations like Rotary that have been helping get things done." Rotary Club president Brent Devolin (far left) and director Bill Obee (far right) presented the final installment to Deputy Reeve Cheryl Murdoch (middle), who is also vice-chair of the library board. The Minden Hills library was built three years ago.

Highlander news

County weighs employee benefits

Seeks ways to compensate for provincial cuts

By Lisa Harrison

It's zero hour for county council in deciding whether to fund 2013 discretionary health benefits for Ontario Works (OW) and the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP).

Councillors will discuss four proposed funding options at the financial committee meeting Nov. 14 following a presentation to council's Oct. 24 meeting by Rod Sutherland, manager of social services for the City of Kawartha Lakes (CKL).

CKL is the consolidated municipal services manager for both regions. It is run by a joint committee and determines the discretionary benefits offered. Affected benefits include OW emergency dental care and vision care for adults and ODSP dentures and some assistive devices.

CKL's proposed funding options for the county range from preserving existing funding and service levels and increasing spending by \$138,012 to cutting funding by 35.7 per cent and deeply cutting services.

In May Sutherland advised council the July 1 provincial funding cap on health-related OW and ODSP discretionary benefits meant a budget shortfall of about 50 per cent, totalling \$36,598 for the county this year and \$73,147 in 2013. The province is uploading OW costs from municipalities until 2018 and the cap would help reduce provincial costs.

Council decided to cover the shortfall until October to give

CKL time to further research the effects of the cap on benefits recipients, and not to fund the shortfall in subsequent years.

On Oct. 24 Sutherland presented new funding options from CKL based on additional provincial changes implemented in July.

Sutherland reported effective in 2013 the new Consolidated Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI) will cover social assistance provided by an earlier program that included OW and ODSP. The combined funding reduction from the July cap and the CHPI changes is estimated at \$968,142 annually for the two regions.

Sutherland said CKL's proposed options also incorporate the Community Social Investment Fund established by the two regions in 2007 with municipal savings realized when the province implemented the Ontario Child Benefit.

"The reason why we combined all this together in one report is... all of the changes together of these programs and the subsidy changes will have a cumulative impact on social service recipients and low-income families," said Sutherland.

"With varying degrees of success [these programs] work together and we don't want to look at separating out one from the other. So if we have X amount of money in 2013, we have to look at how are we going to manage all those things together."

Councillors expressed concern CKL was requesting a decision without leaving council sufficient time to review the report, and that a table demonstrating where services would be reduced or cut with each option did not identify the

number of affected recipients.

Councillor Barb Reid questioned CKL's proposed shifting of OW upload savings to support the homelessness program as part of the recommendations.

"I'm not sure why we would deviate from what the province is recommending," said Reid. "If somebody comes to the door and qualifies [for OW], they have to be served, so this only works if the caseload is constant. If the caseload starts to go up, guess what? The value of our upload is going to go down just accommodating the needs of legitimate people who need these benefits."

Warden Murray Fearney requested a CKL social services staff member attend the Nov. 14 finance committee meeting to provide further explanation to all councillors who wish to attend.

The county's choice will need to consider eligibility criteria and will be combined with CKL's choice for a final recommendation before the end of the year.

"The county didn't cut the benefits, let's be clear, the province [cut them]," said Fearney. "What we need to do is find some method of helping those who really need it and at the same time [find] something that's affordable."

The Ontario Works (OW) program provides social assistance benefits to eligible residents for basic needs such as food, clothing and shelter as well as many items and services that support health and employment opportunities. ODSP helps eligible people with disabilities who are in financial need pay for living expenses such as food and housing by providing financial help and/or help in finding a job.

I'm not sure why we would deviate from what the province is recommending

Reeve Barb Reid

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Editorial opinion

Tough position

A new CEO has been named for Haliburton Highlands Health Services.

Since Paul Rosebush announced his resignation earlier this year, there have been a lot of question marks surrounding the organization.

No one doubted the board would find a replacement, or thought the hospitals would fall apart under the care of interim CEO Foster Loucks. Rather, the question was who would be found to lead the organization forward through a difficult time.

The Ministry of Health and Long-term Care (MOHLTC) has put a freeze on funding increases over the next three years. That means no new money for the hospitals to work with. When you're talking about a small organization like HHHS, where every dollar is accounted for and put to use, that creates problems. Dealing with inflation alone will be challenging for the new CEO.

That being said, the HHHS board may have found the right man for the job.

Varouj Eskedjian has a lot of ideas about where he wants the hospital to go. Lucky for him, Rosebush and Loucks left the organization in a strong position. He's coming into it without the burden of having to rebuild or clean up any messes.

Eskedjian wants to increase the number of services, improve the quality of current services, and he wants to do it while under this tight financial crunch that all Ontario hospitals are facing.

He said his first step is to leverage the

community. In Haliburton, we have a number of organizations and community initiatives that are available to assist the hospital in providing these services.

Eskedjian plans to partner with groups like Community Care and SIRCH to fulfill his mandate by building on existing programs.

But he is not restricting himself to the Highlands alone. Eskedjian has said he will look outside of the county for opportunities to improve HHHS. Those opportunities may include seeking best practices from other small hospitals or partnering with non-local groups, if the fit is right.

Although this will be his first CEO position, Eskedjian's experience is such that the transition shouldn't pose much of a problem for him. Having spent five years with the MOHLTC, he has a firm grasp of the ministry's funding model. Knowing where the money goes and how it gets there is important in a situation like this, where every penny is going to be counted.

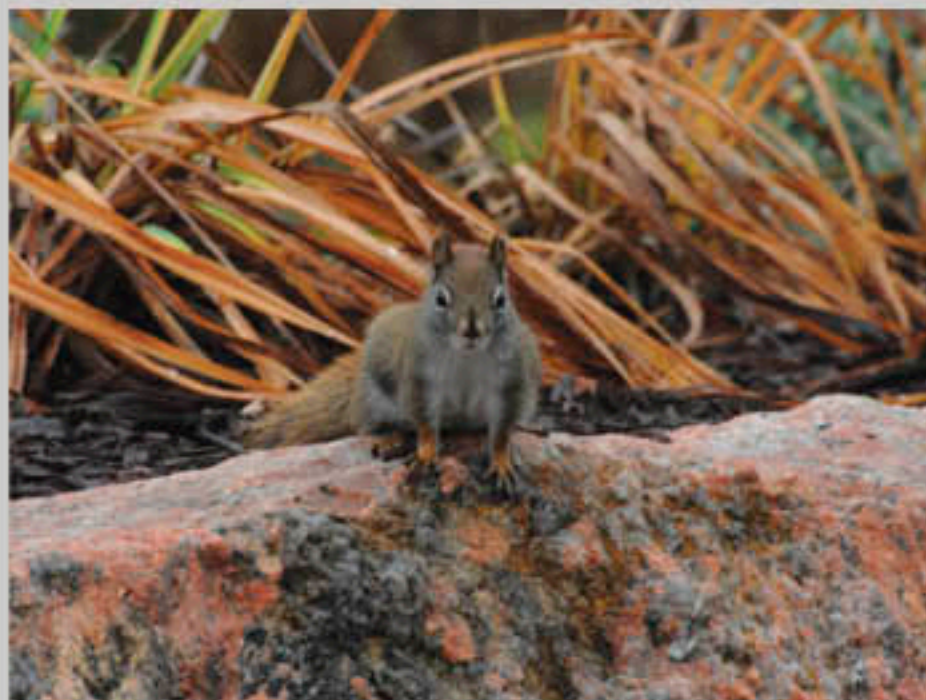
Despite all his experience in health care, Eskedjian should be ready for a struggle. It won't be easy for him to meet his goals while managing a very tight budget. The HHHS board has confidence in his abilities, however, having selected him from among several strong candidates.

Welcome to the Highlands.



By Matthew Desrosiers

Photo of the week



By Mark Arike

A furry friend surveys the area before going on its way.

Thank a veteran

In Holland, Remembrance Day is marked on May 4 with a two-minute silence at 8pm. Trains in motion come to a stop. Drivers pull over and stand motionless. The flag is lowered as a nation reflects on the tragedy and outrage of the Second World War.

Sixty-eight years later, the Dutch still hold a special place in their hearts for the Canadians who liberated them from the depravity and horror of Nazi occupation. In the months prior, the *hunger-winter* it's called, the Germans pursued a scorched-earth policy of starvation on the population. The Dutch burned doors and furniture to stay warm, ate tulip bulbs and grass to stay alive.

What the Dutch endured was relatively mild compared to the fates of others — the millions who were torn from their homes to be tortured and murdered. Yet still, despite all we know about that time, there's more we are just now finding out. Through scholarly investigations and first-hand accounts, reports of the entirety of the hell that that war began are now emerging: cannibalism in the concentration camps as desperate prisoners fought for life; more French civilians killed by Allied bombings than by the German enemy; summary executions of civilians and soldiers, by both sides, in clear violation of the rules of war.

Rules? There are no rules in war. We may paint it with pageantry, remember it with solemnity; we codify it in treaties signed by important men in lavish halls. But any attempt to standardize or normalize war will fail, for war is the absence of normality, the absence of civilization.

The Second World War was unambiguous in the righteousness of the mission. The First, no less so, though the enemy may be characterized in that case more by stupidity, perhaps insanity, than by the evil synonymous with the Third Reich. In both we were restoring our own civilization; when it was all over, the survivors knew what and how to rebuild.

More recent wars — Afghanistan comes to

mind — are less clear cut. Our intentions may be noble, the initial cause urgent, but there's no denying we are fighting for a population hostile to us, a civilization not of our own. The Afghans saw off the British and Russians, and will see us off in due course to return to their twisted brand of medieval nihilism, no matter how many schools we build. Nobody asks if the fight for Europe was worth the cost; it will be different with Afghanistan, even if the bravery and dedication of those who serve there is no less than in other wars.

Remembrance is not particularly difficult. We have books and films and classes and art to remind us of the true costs of war. And we know, most of us, of the sacrifices and heroism of our veterans. Honouring them, however, seems to be more of a challenge. Putting up signs on Canada's noisiest, dirtiest stretch of road seems to me one of those ostentatious yet meaningless gestures politicians make to use the profundity of sacrifice to bolster their own images. Better we should ensure veterans get their rightful benefits and are guaranteed the jobs, housing and secure retirements befitting a grateful nation. Recent news of a veteran denied burial benefits is a national disgrace, one more example of politicians who wrap themselves in the flag for the cameras only to pull it out from under those who live and die for it.

Grateful is perhaps what each of us can be to honour those who fought, those who returned and those who did not. When we see grey-haired vets selling poppies or young men and women coming home, let's thank them — personally, out loud — and hold our leaders to account for debts our veterans are owed by us all. Honouring is a higher form of remembrance we can all make happen.



By Bram Lebo

Correction

In 'EMS keeps third spare ambulance' (The Highlander, Issue 56, pg. 2), the name of the car dealership was wrongly listed as Ridgeway Ford. The correct name is Ridgewood Ford. The Highlander regrets the error.

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Letters to the editor

A time to reflect

Dear editor,

Every Remembrance Day, residents of Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock take the time to honour and pay tribute to those who fought for the liberation of millions around the world and died for our freedom.

From Vimy Ridge in WWI, to Dieppe and Juno Beach in WWII, defending Seoul during the Korean War to restoring stability in Bosnia, and from Rwanda to Kandahar – during the world's darkest hours – Canadians answered the call. Even the smallest communities in our riding contributed enormously to these efforts, sending thousands of our young people to all branches of the military in all corners of the world.

Remembrance Day gives us an opportunity to remember those who have worn our country's uniform and have given the ultimate sacrifice in defence of Canadian values. Their sacrifice for Canada is something that we must never take for granted. We can never thank them enough.

During the time-honoured moment of silence, Ontarians will pause to remember the brave soldiers, sailors, airmen and women, who gave their lives in service of Canada and our way of life. We remember their sacrifices and cherish the country that they made possible.

I encourage each one of you to take a moment to remember our veterans' bravery, their determination and their conviction, that has led to our military successes, and has preserved the peace and prosperity we enjoy today.

Here in Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock, residents will gather for annual Remembrance Day services and pay their respects at Royal Canadian Legions and cenotaphs in 22 communities.

On behalf of the residents of Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock, I want to express my deepest gratitude to all of the men and women who have bravely served and are currently serving in the Canadian Armed Forces.

Let's we forget.

Laurie Scott
Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock

Is the Protected Lake list carved in concrete?

Dear editor,

It would be very interesting to know what methodology was used to determine how the 97 lakes and 62 rivers were placed on the protected list. An analysis by a reporter from the Ottawa Citizen noted that most lakes were in Conservative ridings. Purely a coincidence?

Setting politics aside, a close look at the protected waters shows a big flaw. Namely that the rivers and lakes directly in the Trent Canal system were protected, but the Reservoir and Flow-Through (RAFT) Lakes were not.

Too much water, too little water and polluted water are important factors. What happens in each of the RAFT lakes has a direct impact on the downstream canal system. They are integral parts of the whole TSW System and should be added to the list, as an entity.

I'm not sure what role Barry Devolin had in determining what lakes would be placed on the 'Protected List'. But apparently, it was not as much as Tony Clement who has 12

protected lakes in his riding.

Barry was missing in action on the recommendations in the TSW Report, and his private members bill to form an Independent Management Agency for the combined TSW and Rideau system is a non-starter. If he can use his considerable political skills to add our respective lakes to the protected list, it might show that he can represent us. If not ...

At this stage it does not take much to add a few other lakes to the list and there should not be any negative impact to doing so. Transport Canada has indicated that this list is not final and that more names could be added to the list, over time. It would therefore certainly not hurt for the lake association executives and members of each 'missing lake' to ask Barry to include their lakes on the protected list.

I'm sure that I am not the only one who thinks that there might be some movement on this one, but only if we ask.

Dennis Choptiany
Markham

Re: Heat-Line open letter response

Dear editor,

I am writing in response to Mr Muirhead's letter last week. Mr Muirhead claims to speak on behalf of the Maple, Beech and Cameron Lakes owners association. I do not believe that he speaks on behalf of the entire association. I find it bizarre that he portrays his supporters as selfish and mean people who do not wish to share this land with the permanent residents.

The expansion of the entire airport project and the clean and green industries that it will spawn represent an opportunity for our youth to find meaningful high tech jobs without having to move elsewhere. Mr. Muirhead insists that he represents the best interests of the township. How can that be? Since his rallying of the cottagers, he has cost the rate payers of AH more than \$1 million in additional studies and the Middleton expropriation. Had they not followed the advice of Muirhead and company, the airport and the industrial park would be completed by now and generating increased income. Now, we

ratepayers can look forward to more delays, studies, lawsuits and lost revenue. The campaign against the airport expansion has derailed the political process in AH. The tail is wagging the dog. A puppet council was elected solely for the purpose of stopping any development in the township, and now we can see over \$1 million wasted with much more to come, thanks to Mr. Muirhead.

I do not believe that all cottagers in this township are the mean and self-centered people that their movement implies. I believe that if they were made aware of all the facts that they, too, would support the entire airport project. It's just too bad that it has to cost millions before they realize it. And even then, they, and we permanent residents, will have to pay.

Archie Dobbins
Operations Manager
Firewall Forward Aero Engines Inc.

Tell us your opinion

Send your letters to the editor to matthew@haliburtonhighlander.ca

The Outsider — Snow, shingles and my newest ex-friend

Never again!

Not ever, ever again will I agree to help out a friend without first finding out the full extent of the favour asked and then getting those parameters written down, in blood!

Sound harsh?

Maybe. But there are things that a man must do to preserve his safety and his sanity, trust me.

I guess I should backtrack a little and explain. It all started with me, your resident outsider thinking 'hmm, that sounds new, perhaps I should try it', just as I do most things I come across in your wonderful country.

I should also qualify that this was after overhearing a friend's wife tell my wife that her hubby needed help shingling a roof. And, after hearing my lovely wife put my name forward as just the man for the job.

"OK, I guess I could give it a try," said I, thinking, how hard can it be? And so I was enlisted as roofer's mate for the as yet unspecified job. I even began to look forward to it and that's when things started to go awry.

"There might be two roofs and a couple of other little jobs, too," said my new boss (read ex-friend), when I spoke to him on the phone. "You'll need to pack your bag for about a week."

"A BAG! A WEEK!"

"Did my wife not tell you that the job is in Kirkland Lake?"

he asked, seemingly quite innocently.

"What the... Where's Kirkland Lake?" I stammered.

"Oh, it's where my brother lives, about five hours north and it's the arsehole of the world," he laughed.

He picked me up two weeks later, in the first week of November, assuring me that there was no finer time to shingle a roof. I doubted that but nonetheless I was soon on my way to Ontario's gold mining country, the trees getting smaller, the temperature getting lower, the wind getting wilder (I guess we can blame Hurricane Sandy for that).

The next morning I found myself three stories up, clinging to the steepest roof in the neighbourhood as the snow and freezing rain slowly sapped all enthusiasm for life out of my cold, wet body. We stripped shingles, and we stripped and stripped, not one, not two but four layers of shingles. The wind blew a gale, the icy rain lashed our faces and still my new boss (ex-friend) whistled a happy tune.

As I jagged the shingle shovel back and forth I gazed miserably out across the rooftops perceiving a very different Canada to the one I'm used to. Kirkland Lake, for those not in the know, is a rough, tough town, filled with men who work deep underground in appalling conditions, digging for gold. Their families stick it out with them in this bleakness, often living in tumble-down houses in dingy neighbourhoods, 'living the dream' of making a fast buck. I marvelled at their

hardiness and spirit.

Minutes later my new boss (ex-friend) shouted "it's lunchtime," and we high tailed it off the roof and into the nearest fast food restaurant, a KFC.

As he tucked into his popcorn chicken my new boss (ex-friend) professed his love for these tasty but strangely unchickeny snacks, before licking his lips and saying, "Mmmm! My wife won't let me eat this stuff when I'm at home." This was the first of many trips to assorted junk food emporiums over the next few days – safe to say we did 'em all!

I'm back home in Haliburton now. My stomach is still recovering and my body is slowly working out the aches and pains of a week's hard labour (not something your average journo is used to). The roof, hmm. We got half of it stripped and reshingled then the weather closed in and we were forced to seal it up. My new boss (ex-friend) promised to come back in the spring to finish the job. He coaxed and cajoled me into joining him on a return journey. He even took me to a couple more fast food joints to sweeten the deal but it'll take more than a Big Mac to get me to go back to Kirkland Lake.

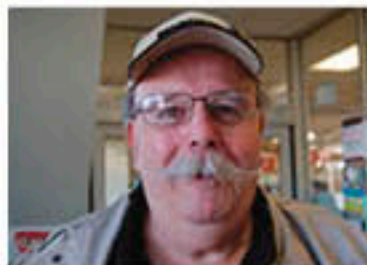
Never again. Not ever, ever again will I agree to help out this particular almost so ex-friend.



By Will Jones

Highlander opinions

Eye on the street: What do you think about on Remembrance Day?



David Cowie

Aurora

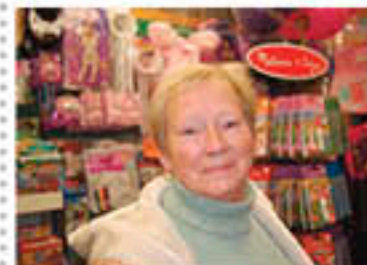
I think about my father being in the air force in WWII and contributing to our free country.



Gary Moffatt

Soyers Lake

It is wonderful that we give thanks to the people that fought and died for our freedom.



Sharon Williams

Toronto

I think about my father who served, and all the other men and women, so that we can live the free life that we have.

Bob Wood

Kushog Lake

Very thankful that our forefathers fought and gave the effort to give us the country that we have.



Doreen Cowen

Haliburton

I am very thankful. Because of our vets, we get to live in a beautiful and free country.



Foundation campaigns for Cardiac Safe Communities

By Lisa Harrison

Administering cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) can save lives, but while many Ontarians know this, too few administer it, according to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario (HSFO).

So the HSFO is on a new campaign to encourage the creation of "Cardiac Safe Communities."

"Up to 80 per cent of cardiac arrests [in Ontario] happen out of hospital," Krista Noonan, HSFO Peterborough area manager, told county council at its Oct. 24 meeting.

Of those occurrences, 35 to 55 per cent are witnessed but only five to six per cent of bystanders apply CPR, said Noonan, and that same percentage – five to six – is the maximum survival rate.

HSFO statistics show a person's chance of surviving a cardiac arrest drops by seven to 10 per cent for every minute that passes without help. Permanent brain damage can occur within three to four minutes without oxygen to the brain.

Survival rates in cardiac arrests outside hospital jump as high as 75 per cent when CPR and an automated external defibrillator (AED) are used. CPR keeps the blood circulating to keep vital organs alive. AEDs apply electrical therapy to reestablish the heart's proper rhythm.

HSFO research shows bystanders are often not trained in CPR or are afraid of injuring the victim, and AEDs are only somewhat familiar or are unknown to 50 per cent of the population.

The North American "gold standard" survival rate is 16.3 per cent, established in

Seattle-King County, Washington, through collaboration among emergency services, hospitals, schools and government and public awareness initiatives.

HSFO is asking municipalities to conduct a public education campaign around the ease of CPR training and use of AEDs; work with HSFO to place AEDs in all sport and recreation facilities and schools; and write a letter to the Minister of Health and Long Term Care in support of changes to the script followed by emergency medical dispatchers on a 9-1-1 call.

HSFO wants the script revised from asking if the caller wishes to apply CPR to instead providing "the most compelling, clear and mandatory CPR direction in all cases of cardiac arrest." Noonan said applying CPR would not be mandatory, but directions would be mandatory in order to encourage it.

"The Haliburton area has done a fabulous job" in placing AEDs, said Noonan. She added the Ministry provided funding for initial AED placement and training but counties will see costs of about \$2,000 per unit for maintenance.

Warden Murray Fearrey said the county has accepted this, but the units will eventually require replacement at a "huge" cost, and he's hearing the same concerns from other counties. Fearrey said most public sites in the county now have AEDs.

Director of Emergency Services Pat Kennedy confirmed that.

"We have 40 sites and 11 in the fire departments, so all community centres, all the arenas, [Royal Canadian Legion halls] have all been completed, municipal offices – as far as that goes we're in good shape. What we



Photo by Lisa Harrison

Larry Blanchard, deputy chief in charge of quality assurance and education for the county's emergency services department, demonstrates use of an automated external defibrillator.

need is for Heart and Stroke to look at rural Ontario and expand the program."

Kennedy said the county has now trained 1,100 people in AED use and he's using the Seattle model of 15 per cent as his long-term goal, which means 2,500 county residents. Retraining is done at 20 sites per year.

Training courses hold 100 people, and Kennedy said the Haliburton courses are full but Minden courses usually have only 50 to 60 attendees, perhaps because Haliburton is more centralized.

Council received the HSFO report for information.

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Highlander news



Photo by Lisa Harrison

The Granite Cove condominium in Haliburton is nearing completion, with some units already occupied.

County fast tracks Granite Cove condo registration

By Lisa Harrison

Granite Cove, the nearly completed condominium at Highway 118 and Park St. in Haliburton Village, was exempted from the plan draft approval stage at county council's Oct. 24 meeting.

Jane Tousaw, county planning director, said although it's the first exemption request for the county, "it's pretty standard." She reported the developer's proposed Plan of Standard Condominium represents good land use planning and the application met the county's exemption criteria so it was "in the public interest" to grant the exemption.

Under the Condominium Act, an application for approval of a condominium must follow the same planning process as a plan of subdivision. However, the developer can file an Application for Condominium Exemption to skip draft approval steps and move directly to the final approval stage.

If the exemption were denied, the plan would need to go through the full approval process, "and that can take six months or so," said Tousaw.

"Basically there are five tests we look at to see whether or not it's appropriate to approve the condominium exemption," she told council.

The plan of condominium must conform to the county's official plan, it must be zoned for the proposed use, and the proposed use must have recently undergone a planning review and been approved by the local municipality and/or the county.

Also, the local municipal council must support the proposed exemption and provide a resolution of council to the county – Tousaw said Dysart et al was "very thorough" in reviewing the plan – and all buildings and structures shown on the declaration and description must be completed and installed as prescribed under the Condominium Act.

Tousaw said the plan had met all five criteria, including provision of clearance letters from Canada Post and telecom service provider Bell Alliant confirming they had been consulted and their requirements had already been met.

"So this is one of those situations where my recommendation is that this is an appropriate example of a condominium exemption that you could favourably consider," Tousaw concluded.

"And this is what we're going to see across the county, this kind of development?" Warden Murray Fearrey asked.

"It isn't part of your decision, but we all know what the information is that we're getting back from the housing study," Tousaw replied. "This is the type of development that is being identified as a need to address one of the areas of concern."

The Granite Cove plan calls for a four-storey residential apartment condominium with 30 units containing two or more bedrooms, with one parking spot for each unit in the heated garage and 27 visitor parking spaces outside, including 3 handicapped visitor spaces.



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Highlander people



Hurricane Sandy blasts vacationers

By Matthew Desrosiers

Most of us in Haliburton were lucky enough to miss Hurricane Sandy as she lashed parts of the province last week. Unfortunately for four locals on a trip to Cuba, they experienced her full fury.

"We heard it was hurricane season until October-ish, but we weren't warned at all," said Sarah Coltman. "We woke up on Sunday [Oct. 21], had about two hours of sun, and then it was raining."

Coltman, along with her boyfriend Tyler Stewart, friend Kelsey Brown and her boyfriend Jay Winfield, left for Cuba on the night of Oct. 20. They arrived at their resort that night and went to bed after a long travel day.

After a dreary day on Sunday, the group started hearing about a potential hurricane.

"Monday, they were preparing for the storm," she said. "They were stacking up all the lawn chairs, digging up the tiki huts and taping the windows."

Word from resort management and staff was that the hurricane would be a Class 1, if it even hit that hard.

On Monday, Oct. 22, they visited a small tourist town called Guardalavaca, where merchants set up their wares for sale.

"It's where everyone puts their little shops up and you can go shopping," she said. "It's

like a little market."

The next day, the resort was planning for the worst and had stopped serving alcohol so guests would not be intoxicated during the storm.

Coltman had a notice on her door from management listing a number of rules to follow. She was told to stay in her room, not to open any windows or doors, to stay away from windows and to move into the bathroom if the storm was very bad, as it was the safest place in the room.

Sandy hit at 1:30 a.m. the next morning.

"It was really scary," Coltman said. "You just can't see. There's water, the power of the winds... the concrete walls you could feel them move."

"They said it was 3.5 [hurricane] when it hit us."

Coltman's room flooded with at least three inches of water, she said. The patio door in

her friends' room was blown off, and the pair slept in their bathtub that night.

"It was honestly like the exorcist," she said. "The walls [were] shaking, it was super loud. No one slept through it."

The walls moved so much she could hear them banging off the headboard of the bed. Water came in through the patio door as it shook back and forth on its tracks, and ceiling tiles came down.

"It was surreal." Coltman and her friends were caught in the storm until 3 a.m. From three to four in the morning they were



Photos submitted by Sarah Coltman
From left: Kelsey Brown, Jay Winfield, Sarah Coltman and Tyler Stewart.

in the eye of the storm and enjoyed a brief respite until Sandy hit again from 4-6:30 a.m.

"[It's] like something you have seen in a movie," Coltman said, describing the damage after the storm.

"When we opened our door around 6:30 a.m., it was still really windy but it was ok to go out," she said. "The whole ceiling in our hallway had come down. All the tiles, lights and ventilation system, the piping, the rods..."

The beach was washed away, exposing coral and sharp rocks where the sand had been. Palm trees had blown over and the damage was everywhere.

The resort Coltman had been staying at, the Blau Costa Verde Resort, was under construction/renovation during their stay which contributed to a discounted price on the trip. However, after the storm, whether it was Sandy that caused the damage or their generator wasn't working beforehand, the Blau Costa Verde was the only resort on the strip with no hydro.

"All the hydro was down in our resort and the water," she said. "The store in our resort wasn't open. There was no food, really."

The group of friends decided they needed to do something.

"I really wanted to call home and let them know I was ok, and we wanted food too," she said. "We heard two or three resorts down, the Playa Pesquero Hotel had hydro at least. We took a horse and buggy and we went there and were able to call home."

Finally on Friday, two days after the storm hit, Coltman and her friends were transferred to that same hotel, the Playa Pesquero, for the remainder of their trip.

All their excursions had been cancelled with the exception of Saturday's visit with the dolphins, she said.

"It was gorgeous on Saturday, the day we were flying out."

Now back home in Minden, Coltman is in talks with her travel agent, documenting the issues on the trip. Her and her friends may be able to receive a partial discount on the vacation-gone-awry.

Coltman is just thankful to have made it through the storm safely.

Thank you to our volunteers from the HCSA

The Haliburton County Snowmobile Association (HCSA) wishes to extend a sincere thank you to our volunteer members who have decided to retire from the daily activities of the HCSA. Their dedication to the sport of snowmobiling has made the HCSA a leader in organized snowmobiling. They assisted greatly in making winter tourism viable in The Haliburton Highlands. Many volunteer hours have been spent helping in many ways to promote and make the sport of snowmobiling a truly enjoyable experience in the Highlands. Thank you Andy Chvedukas, Rosemary Blight, Garth & Carol Kreiger, Chuck & Sara Sneath, Joe & Marlene Foster. All the best in your future endeavours.

Wish to help the HCSA continue to evolve to maintain and improve upon its product that it provides to snowmobilers and the community?

Please come out to our general meetings on the first Tuesday of every month at 7 pm at 171 Mallard Drive in the Industrial Park, Haliburton.

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Highlander arts

Film festival on the rise

By Matthew Desrosiers

The lights are out and the projectors are off as another Haliburton International Film Festival (HIFF) came to a close on the weekend.

Since 2007, the festival has been a draw for people who want to see a wide selection of films as chosen by a committee of volunteers.

Roberta Coles, a member of that committee, said the festival was well-attended this year.

"It was great," she said. "We estimated it was up 20 per cent. It seems like every year we do it, it gets a little bit better."

The festival was held at the Northern Lights Pavilion.

"We've been advertising more and it's starting to get a little better now," Coles said. "We're starting to get people coming to Haliburton just for it."

Coles said word of the festival was spread through the cottagers in the summer who told their friends back home.

"We had several groups that came up to the area just for the weekend. That's what we intended when we decided to start the film festival."

While there are plans to grow the festival in the future, right now they're taking baby steps, Coles said.

They showed seven films over the weekend. The biggest turnout was for the 7 p.m. showing of *Bernie* on Oct. 30.

"It was a comedy," she said. "Probably the

good turnout was because of the time and that it was a comedy. We know from our other movie series that people like the lighter films."

Coles and the HIFF committee also manage the 'Those Other Movies' series of films.

They also received a large audience for the Saturday night showing of *A Separation*, which won a 2012 academy award for best foreign film.

"We're choosing movies all through the year for our regular film series," Coles said. "Our committee members are all movie lovers and we go to film festivals ourselves."

With their experience at other festivals, the committee has a good idea of how to select what gets shown in Haliburton.

"We try to bring together a good mix, something for everyone," she said. "People seem to prefer lighter comedies, at least in our community."

The dream is to one day open a theatre of their own for their movies and the film festival.

Coles said the tentative dates for next year's festival are Nov. 1-3, 2013.

In the meantime, if you'd like to see some movies, showings of 'Those Other Movies' are every second Tuesday until June. There are two showings, at 4:15 p.m. and 7:15 p.m. For more information, visit www.haliburton-movies.com.

Haliburton County's Hot Reads

The following are the top five fiction and non-fiction titles as requested this week at the Haliburton County Public Library.

HCPL's TOP FIVE FICTION

1. *Up and Down* by Terry Fallis 🇨🇦
2. *Trust Your Eyes* by Linwood Barclay 🇨🇦
3. *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry* by Rachel Joyce
4. *The Casual Vacancy* by J.K. Rowling
5. *Fifty Shades of Grey* by E.L. James

HCPL's TOP FIVE NON-FICTION

1. *Wheat Belly: Lose the Wheat, Lose the Weight, and Find Your Path Back to Health* by William Davis
2. *Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail* by Cheryl Strayed
3. *Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World That Won't Stop Talking* by Susan Cain
4. *Thinking Fast and Slow* by Daniel Kahneman
5. *The Wealthy Barber Returns* by David Chilton 🇨🇦

Canadian literary award season is wrapping up and in the last few weeks there have been some high profile winners announced.

419 by Will Ferguson won the Giller Prize on October 31st. This novel delves into the world of internet fraud schemers – and what would happen if the tables were turned on them. *419* is dark, very compassionate and has a lightning fast plot and, because Ferguson is best known for his comedy and travel writing, it was a pleasantly surprising departure for him.

The official winner of the Ontario Library Association's Evergreen Award, which the Haliburton County Public Library actively participates in, will be announced later this month but we can tell you now that the winner for Haliburton County is *The Accident* by Linwood Barclay.

The Accident follows building contractor Glen as he tries to piece together the conspiracy surrounding his wife's fatal drunk driving accident.

You can reserve *419* and *The Accident* at the Haliburton County Public Library.

Library News: We're running children's programming on Saturday mornings at the Minden Hills branch. Stop by at 10 a.m. for stories, games, crafts – free fun!

In Flanders Fields

By John McCrae, May 1915

*In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.*

*We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.*

*Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.*



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Remembrance day



WWII veteran recalls time in Italy

By Matthew Desrosiers

Over a million Canadian men and women served their country in World War II.

Len Crawford was one.

Crawford, sergeant-at-arms with the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 624 in Wilberforce, was a trooper in the reconnaissance regiment of the 1st Division. He served for over two years in Italy, from the age of 19 until just before his 22nd birthday.

He left from Halifax on a five-day journey across the Atlantic to England.

"[The ships] never went in a straight line," he said. "They had it timed to go so far for so long one direction, then they would change course. They were always headed the same direction, but on an angle. They told us that was because if the submarines were there and they let a torpedo go, it would hit on an angle and not head on."

Sleeping accommodations were three deep, with one soldier on the ground, one on a bench or table, and another above. They were escorted part of the way by ships before bombers took over escort duties.

"I wasn't in England very long," Crawford said. "We landed in Naples, [Italy]. They [the Germans] had made it up that far."

Crawford was part of the attack that pushed into Rimini. It was a long and hard-fought campaign.

"Most of the time I drove a motorcycle," Crawford recalled. "But then I had to jump into an armoured car sometimes."

"Italy didn't have reinforcements but you were losing guys, so you had to do a number of jobs."

The soldiers were always expected to push forward against the German defences.

"It was slow going. It was mountainous in places. It was slow going up and down those mountains. Some days you didn't make any headway at all."

He looked forward to the flat stretches where tanks could come forward and lead the charge.

"[They] made quite a difference."

As part of the reconnaissance regiment, Crawford was responsible for scouting ahead and finding the enemy. Sometimes that would mean driving until someone took a shot at you.

"If you found them, you estimate what it is and radio back," he said.

Back in the 1940s, radio equipment was not always reliable. There were times the soldiers would lose communications altogether, he said.

"We survived. Well, a lot of us. A lot of us didn't."

"I had a couple of close calls."

While on his motorcycle, or the Snortin' Norton as he called it, Crawford came under fire from enemy mortars. The Germans had set up a number of mortar attack posts along their defensive line.

"When you heard the mortars, it wasn't bad," Crawford explained. "It's when the noise quit you've got to be careful and get in somewhere, [because] it's coming down right near ya. You find cover pretty fast."



Photo submitted by Wilberforce Legion Branch 624
Sergeant-at-arms Len Crawford (left) and Highlands East Reeve Dave Burton participate in the 2011 Remembrance Day ceremonies in Wilberforce.

Crawford parked his bike next to an old stone farmhouse and took cover inside. The mortars landed all around, including directly on the slate roof of the house. Luckily, it held.

"I had to walk back," he said. "The motorcycle was toast. I got out of it, and that's all that matters."

After fighting through Italy, Crawford made his way up through the south of France and Belgium, eventually joining the campaign to liberate Holland. After spending three days in Germany, the war was over.

The 1st Division was the first to be sent home.

Crawford has returned to Holland four times over the years to partake in Remembrance Day ceremonies.

"The people took us in and billeted us in their homes," he said. "I got up to thank these people at this ceremony."

Crawford said he has watched the video of that particular ceremony several times over the last few weeks. As he left the stage, the master of ceremonies said to him that it is the people of Holland that should be thanking the Canadian soldiers, and not the other way around.

"I'm really impressed with the people over there. They really appreciate Canadians."

But what about back home?

"You can see the ones that care on Remembrance Day,

they come out," he said. "That's the way I look at it. If there are some that aren't interested, well so be it. They don't remember what it was about."

He is pleased to see children in schools being engaged and educated on the war.

"They know what happened, what doesn't happen and what could happen," he said. "I think it's great that they're interested."

During his four visits overseas, Crawford has walked through a number of Canadian cemeteries, searching for names of soldiers he knew, brothers he fought with. He hasn't seen them all.

"There were a lot of people over there, a lot of youth, or little more than youth, that are still over there, buried in them cemeteries. What could they have done if they were in this country, back again? It's pretty sad when you think of all them youth that were killed. [It's] what I think of on Remembrance Day, is the guys that are still laying over there."

That's why Remembrance Day is important to him, he said.

"I feel really good when I see people at the Remembrance Day ceremonies. It makes you feel good that somebody is remembering."

"It's nice that somebody remembers."

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Remembrance day



Life in the Canadian Armed Forces

By Mark Arke

He hasn't yet had to defend his country, but one day Jason Donaldson hopes to go to another part of the world to put his training to use.

"I think it would be a pretty decent career," said Donaldson, a 23-year-old former resident of Highland Grove who is currently in training for weapons technician (land) at the Canadian Forces base in Petawawa.

Since he was in Grade 3, Donaldson knew he wanted to enlist.

"It looked interesting to me," he said.

After graduating from North Hastings High School in Bancroft, Donaldson joined the reserves in Pembroke, where he remained for two years. He then went on to the regular forces. To transfer to the weapons technician area of study, he had to complete six months of training at the Canadian Forces Base (CFB) in Borden.

According to the National Defence and the Canadian Forces

website, CFB Borden trains an average of 15,000 military personnel annually. The base is located in Simcoe County.

"Now I'm at my on-job-training, which is in Petawawa," said Donaldson. "Once I'm done my on-job-training, they'll send me back to Borden for another six months."

The weapons technician stream has allowed him to do repairs on everything from small arms up to howitzers and weapons systems on tanks.

Donaldson has enjoyed his current field of training but plans on transferring into the materials technician program.

"I find the materials technician to be a much more interesting trade. As a materials technician you're welding, machining and fabricating. I enjoy that aspect more."

Currently, he treats his paid training like any other job.

"When you're not overseas or on exercise, it's like working a 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. job. It's just a regular day for us. We go in and do whatever work there is to be done."

Over the course of his training, Donaldson has met members

of the Armed Forces who have served overseas. For some, it's a difficult subject matter to discuss.

"Some people, especially those in infantry, have some problems when they go overseas. But a lot of those in the tech trades enjoy their tours."

Although his family just relocated to Fort McMurray, Alberta, his parents still have a home in Highland Grove. Donaldson was recently in the area to enjoy hunting season, and on Remembrance Day he will be participating in the Wilberforce Legion's ceremony.

In his eyes, Nov. 11 is an important annual date everyone should observe.

"They [the veterans and current soldiers] put their life on the line and sacrificed for everybody else's freedom. I feel they deserve that respect."

Donaldson's great great grandfather served in both the First and Second World Wars while his uncle Steve trained in artillery in the 1980s. His mother Marilyn is a cadet officer.

Haliburton Legion Branch 129 veterans



BILLY PICARD



BRIAN HAMBLLY



DON JOHNSTON

Photos submitted by Haliburton Legion Branch 129

Pictured here are living Branch 129 veterans.

The Highlander thanks you, and all veterans in our communities, for the sacrifices you made for our country. We will never forget.



CHRIS WILK



RICHARD WATSON



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Highlander community

SIRCH offers Helping Hands

By Matthew Desrosiers

For families who struggle to find money for simple health care items, personal items or other essentials, SIRCH Community Services has a program dedicated to helping them get the things they need.

The Helping Hands program is an initiative by SIRCH to reach out to these families and help them where they need it most. Many families make the choice every day between eating healthy food (which can be expensive), paying bills and buying essential items for the household.

Through the Helping Hands program, SIRCH is able to provide some of those things to alleviate that burden.

"Many of our families and seniors experience a number of challenges that make it difficult for them to meet their basic needs or access the help they need," said Daniela Pagliaro, manager of community resilience programs with SIRCH.

The first business to sign on with the program was Highlands Pharmacy in Haliburton. SIRCH recognized their contribution on Nov. 2 with a certificate.

The pharmacy provides discounted rates on products to SIRCH clients, with some exceptions like prescription drugs.

Ketan Dekiwadiya, one of the owners of the pharmacy, said they're trying to do their part to help.

"We here at Haliburton Highland Pharmacy realize that sometimes individuals or families just need a little help to get over a rough spot," he said. "Being members of this community, we are here to help out as good neighbours."

Lynn Higgs Thompson, community hospice coordinator, said the partnership with the pharmacy helps in several ways.

"The partnership helps our hospice and palliative care clients with the high costs of medications and other items that are required but are not covered by OHIP or ODSP," she said. "These people are usually on a fixed income or they cannot travel. Highlands Pharmacy not only offers a lower cost to these clients, but they also deliver. This makes a world of a difference to our hospice clients who are struggling with terminal illnesses."

Hospice clients experience many side effects from their treatment, resulting in the need for additional medications that are not covered by OHIP.



Photo by Matthew Desrosiers

Judy Davis (left), Daniela Pagliaro, manager of community resilience programs, and Lynn Higgs Thompson (right), community hospice coordinator, recognize Ketan Dekiwadiya and Kalpesh Patel for the Highland Pharmacy Helps initiative.

"For instance, clients receiving chemo may develop mouth sores and infections. A special chemo mouthwash is available but it costs over \$50 a month to use," Thompson said.

Incontinence products, as well as meal replacements like Ensure are expensive, but not covered either.

"Even though we have a great medical system, there are still many costs that are incurred by the client."

Pagliaro said some mothers in SIRCH's parenting group cannot sustain the high cost of diapers, children's medications and other items needed for nursing or during pregnancy.

"Any money saved can go to things like groceries," she said.

Participants in the program need to be clients of SIRCH in good standing. For the Highlands Pharmacy initiative, called Highlands Pharmacy Helps, clients sign a consent form and their names are submitted monthly by SIRCH to the pharmacy.

There are many reasons why clients may need to use the program, including unemployment, layoff, transportation, illness, accidents and isolation. Pagliaro said SIRCH has programs in place to help these clients get back on their feet.

"SIRCH assists clients with information, education and connection to appropriate resources," she said. "It takes a community though – other organizations involved in employment, health, housing, transportation etc. It takes neighbours who care, volunteers – everybody has a role to play."

SIRCH hopes other businesses will offer similar discount programs to clients. However, if you would like to help but a partnership isn't going to work, consider buying a Gift from the Heart. All proceeds stay in Haliburton County to help individuals.



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Winter Car care

Snow tires essential for safe winter driving

By Matthew Desrosiers

Snow tires are to your vehicle what winter boots are to you.

They protect the vehicle, and its passengers, from the dangers posed by the cold winter weather. Those dangers include slippery road conditions, dangerous drivers, treacherous hills and emergency stops.

Reg Humphries, parts manager at Ridgewood Ford in Minden, said car-owners who want to improve the handling and braking of their vehicle should make the investment in a set of winter (or snow) tires.

"They're definitely going to be better," he said. "It doesn't matter what your application is, [whether] it's two-wheel drive, four-wheel drive, truck or not, the snow tire is definitely going to give you more traction."

Humphries said the tires provide extra handling, traction, turning and improved braking. All-season tires, however, don't do the job as well.

"They just don't have the make-up inside," he said. "The rubber compound is a different compound. That is why your snow tires, if ran in the summertime, wear out prematurely. It's because of the softer compound in the tire."

Winter tires are made of a softer rubber compound that, when combined with the highly-specialized tread design, grip the road better despite ice or snow. All-seasons are made up of a harder compound that gets even harder in the cold conditions, reducing grip.

While the cost of snow tires may be high to some, there are economic benefits to making the change in the winter.

"A lot of people think it's a lot of money initially," Humphries said. "When your snow tires are on your vehicle, your summers aren't getting worn out."

Instead of having to replace the all-season or summer tires in two years, you may get four years out of them as a result of switching in the winter, he said.

There are a number of factors to consider when buying snow tires for your vehicle. First, it's important to know that not all tires are created equal.

"One may outperform the other in certain circumstances," Humphries said. "Some are designed more for ice, and some are designed for deeper snow situations."

There are also crossover types that are good at both but great in neither, he said. When deciding which of these to buy, you

need to consider what kind of conditions you'll be driving in. If you're staying in the Highlands, Humphries suggests the ice tires.

"[I would sell] more of an ice or slush tire, something that will give you that traction," he said. "It seems we have more days that are ice conditions with freezing rain than we do with a foot of deep snow, anymore."

Availability is also an issue when getting new winter tires.

"[Manufacturers] build snow tires usually last spring for this time of year," Humphries said. "The numbers of tires that are out there sometimes dictates what you have to use. They aren't building the snow tires right now."

That means what the dealers have in stock or available in their warehouses are all that's going to be accessible this season. For people who wait until the first snowfall of the year, it can severely limit their options.

One thing to keep in mind is that the most expensive tire isn't always the best tire for your vehicle.

"We have some people call up and only put Blizzaks on their car," Humphries said. "Blizzak is one of the top names. Michelin is also one of the top names. Sometimes it's a customer's preference."

However, every year at least one manufacturer decides to come down a bit on price to help popularize their tire. This year, the BF Goodrich Sialom, has been set at a reasonable price point.

While the Blizzak is a very good tire, Humphries said he is familiar with others that are comparable, but less popular and expensive. Bridgestone, who makes the Blizzak, did a very good job marketing the tire, he said.

"Online you can find ratings on the tire. There are a lot of independent people doing studies out there, one [tire] against the other."

One way to save money year over year is to invest in a new set of steel rims for your winter tires.

"We highly recommend [new rims for cost effectiveness],"

Humphries said. "Depending on what you purchase for a rim, if you have a black steel rim, the extra cost of buying the rims is paid for in the savings of getting them dismounted each time [within] about two-and-a-half years."

It can cost \$75-80, twice a year, to get your set of tires dismounted and mounted, balanced and installed on your vehicle. With a separate set of rims, you only pay \$20-25 to have the summer set removed and the winter set installed. No balancing or mounting is required.

It can also prolong the life of your tires.

"Taking the tire on and off the rim, sometimes it's susceptible to damaging the bead [of the tire]," he said. "We've really promoted [getting new rims] and actually discounted our rims to try to get people to do that."

Rims can be purchased from scrap yards as long as you know the proper size and inspect them to make sure there are no cracks or other faults in the rim.

The last thing to keep in mind is your vehicle's tire pressure monitor system (TPMS). The sensor is mandatory in vehicles made after 2008, Humphries said. However, that legislation only applies to manufacturers.

If you don't purchase TPMS sensors for your steel rims an indicator light will always be on your dash saying your tires are low. The sensors can be very expensive.

"Some people don't mind that little light being on the dash, other people it drives them absolutely nuts and they'll pay the extra money to have it off."

While the sensor can potentially save the life of your tire if it starts losing pressure on the road, it is not a requirement and will not impact the performance of your tires.

Studded tires are not legal in Ontario, with the exception of northern Ontario residents.



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Being prepared

By Matthew Desrosiers

When the snow starts to fall, you don't want to find yourself stranded in the middle of nowhere with a busted-down car.

There are a few things you can do to make sure your vehicle is good to go for the winter. Start from the bottom up. First thing you'll want to do is check your tires. Getting winter or snow tires for your vehicle is always a good move, but even with those specialized boots on your car, if the tire pressure is wrong you're out of luck. Make it a point to check the pressure in your tires now. You can lose pressure in the cold weather, so keep an eye on those tires throughout the cold season.

Without proper pressure in your tires, you will lose traction on the road.

Next, check under the hood to make sure you've got the essentials covered. You're looking to make sure your fluids are in order, including anti-freeze, proper windshield wiper fluid and oil. If you're unsure if you have the right types of these fluids, you can always ask your mechanic. You should probably be stopping in for a tune-up before the winter anyway. Most shops will take care of these things for you.

Don't neglect your battery during this inspection. If there is a lot of corrosion, or the battery is old, consider replacing it. Nothing is worse than stepping outside in a blizzard, trying to start your car and finding it dead. Don't rely on a boost from your friends. Instead, be prepared.

Winter is not the time to neglect problems with your vehicle. If your defrost doesn't work properly, or there's an issue with your heater, be sure to get that looked at before it gets cold. Frost on your windows can severely hamper vision on the road, and if you can't get rid of it effectively you're going to have severe problems. On stormy cold days, ice can build up on the vehicle even while driving, so a good heating and defrost system is essential to safe driving.

While on the topic of visibility, make sure you get those cracks in your windows repaired before temperatures drop. The change in temperature can cause them to expand, creating a safety and visibility issue for anyone inside the car. If the cracks are small enough you will not need to replace the windshield. Most specialists are able to perform repairs.

Lastly, it is important to always be prepared for the worst case scenario. That means you should have proper winter attire, including gloves and something to protect your ears, in the event you become stranded in the cold. An emergency kit is a good idea for any vehicle. It should include such things as a first aid kit, rope, flares, food or rations, booster cables, tools, chains, a flashlight, a small shovel and a blanket.

As mentioned earlier, it's always a good idea to take your vehicle in for a tune-up before the weather turns bad. Your mechanic can help you ensure your vehicle is ready for the worst conditions.



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Winter Car care

OPP tips for safe winter driving

As the winter months are fast approaching, the Haliburton Highlands Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) would like to remind motorists to take extra precaution when driving on our roadways. These are some safety tips to keep in mind while driving this winter.

Stay alert, well rested and sober – Since weather conditions change rapidly it places extra demands on your vehicle and your driving skills. Keep your focus on the road and on other vehicles. Anticipate other drivers' actions. Remember also that seat belts save lives. Children under the age of 12 should ride in the back seat, safely seated in a car seat or booster seat made for their size and age.

Slow down and pay attention – Always drive according to weather conditions. Remember to keep a safe distance between you and the vehicle in front of you. The four-second rule applies during winter months. If you are travelling at a rate of speed higher than reasonable or you lose control of your car given the road condition and become involved in a motor vehicle collision, it could result in possible charges.

Loss of control can be traced directly back to driver error, resulting in a Highway Traffic Act charge. Remember to drop your speed to match road conditions. Regardless of driving experience, the way your car will move on snow or ice always has an element of unpredictability. Watch for black ice which can be located in shaded areas, bridges and overpasses. Don't tailgate because stopping takes much longer on snowy and icy roads than on dry pavement.

Remain in control of your vehicle – Know how to handle your vehicle in all weather conditions. Practice safety skills. By reading the owner's manual you will learn about your vehicle's braking system and tire traction. If you are not confident to drive during the winter months, consider taking a winter driving course. Don't use cruise control, it forfeits control by allowing the vehicle to accelerate on its own.

Weather – Stay tuned to weather updates and check road conditions before travelling. During the winter months, always allow yourself extra time for travel to arrive at your destination. Plan your route ahead of time. Let someone know

of your destination and expected time of arrival. Don't take chances if the weather is bad. If driving becomes too risky, turn back or look for a safe place to stop until it is safe to drive.

Move over for emergency vehicles but not for winter maintenance vehicle – It's the law to move over for Emergency Vehicles but when behind Winter Maintenance Vehicles, slow down and stay back a safe distance and exercise patience. Never pass around or between Winter Maintenance Vehicles.

Vehicle maintenance – Prepare for winter in the fall by getting a complete check up of your vehicle. Before heading out, ensure your vehicle is properly maintained and your fuel tank and windshield washer fluid are sufficiently full. Be sure to clear snow and ice from the roof, hood, trunk and all windows, lights and mirrors. See and be seen. Have your tire air pressure checked often as the pressure decreases in cold weather.

Winter driving survival kit – Always remember safety. Here are some recommended items: ice scraper, snowbrush, shovel, sand, tow rope or chain, booster cables, road flares, gas line antifreeze, flashlight and batteries, first aid kit, fire extinguisher, non perishable energy food items, candle, matches and extra clothing or a blanket. If you have a passenger, remind him/her to take extra clothing as well. A cell phone and phone charger are useful tools but remember to pull over to the side of the road to make the call. It's against the law to talk or text while driving.

In an emergency – Remember dialing 9-1-1 on your cell phone will connect you with the emergency services contact centre in the area. Please use 1-888-310-1122 for non-emergencies. If you get stuck or stranded, don't panic. Stay with your vehicle for safety and warmth. Wait for help to arrive. If you are trapped for an extended period of time, make sure your tailpipe is not blocked by snow to keep carbon monoxide from getting into your vehicle.



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Highlander health



Photo by Matthew Desrosiers

Lisa Stoughton (back left), dental hygienist, Dr. Kody Dadelahi, dentist, Joann Bugg, pharmacy technician, and pharmacy owner Khosrow Eshkour pose in the new dental clinic at Highlands East Medical Centre.

Patients open wide for new dentist

By Matthew Desrosiers

Residents of Highlands East now have a way to get the dental care they need.

A new dental clinic at the Highlands East Medical Centre, which started seeing patients in September for hygiene work, had its first dentist visit on Oct. 29.

Dr. Kody Dadelahi of Richmond Hill has committed to spending two days each month at the clinic seeing patients. On his first day, his schedule was full. Lisa Stoughton, dental hygienist at the clinic, said his second day is already filling up fast.

"Dental care is a huge demand in this area," Stoughton said. The Wilberforce clinic is the only one within 20 to 30 minutes between Bancroft and Haliburton, she said.

Although Dadelahi hasn't seen many patients yet, he expects to see decay and gum problems as common issues. He will provide all services with the exception of orthodontics and implants. However, there is a plan to have a dentist come to the clinic.

Dadelahi said he has made arrangements at his clinic to be

available to service Wilberforce.

"If the patients go up, then I'll come more [often]," he said. Dadelahi grew up with pharmacist and owner Khosrow Eshkour.

"I told him there was a need in the area and the community would appreciate having a dentist," Eshkour said.

After speaking with council about it, Eshkour received the support he needed and brought Dadelahi into the clinic.

One of the issues facing patients in the area is affordability. The Wilberforce clinic has payment options in place to help ease the burden, he said.

"Affordability is a big issue for most of the people," Eshkour said. "We came up with a plan to make sure people can afford it."

The clinic is currently open on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9-5 p.m. for hygiene work with Stoughton. She sees a few patients a day, but is quickly building her clientele, she said.

To book an appointment with her or Dadelahi, contact the clinic at 705-448-1118.

Funding freeze creates challenges for small hospitals

continued from page 1

"The challenge over the next two to three years is the hospitals are not going to receive any funding increases from the Ministry of Health," he said. "In this time of financial constraint, how are you going to be able to provide just as many services and also improve on what you are already providing? There is a great opportunity as well in leveraging the partnerships that exist within the Haliburton Highlands area and outside of it too."

Eskedjian said HHHS will not be alone in feeling that crunch.

"Every small hospital group in the province is going to be faced with that challenge over this year and the next two fiscal years," he said. "So one of the things I'm hoping to do as well is to tap into the small hospital groups within the province and see what they're doing in terms of their successes."

"I don't want to invent the wheel if people have come up with a good wheel already."

With a variety of experience in the health care industry,

including five years with the Ministry of Health, Eskedjian said he knows what it takes to be successful in a market like this.

"I have a good sense of how health care organizations are funded and how to maneuver along the political lines," he said. "I think it's really prepared me. Over [my] last two positions, I've worked in Orillia and Lindsay in small community hospitals."

Eskedjian and his wife will make the move to Haliburton in the spring. In the meantime, he will make the daily commute to and from Lindsay. His wife works at the Lakeridge Health Corporation in Oshawa.

"We have to figure out how to transition her, as well."

Nichol said he doesn't think the new CEO will have any problems fitting into the community with his family. Neither does

Eskedjian.

"I'm quite excited about the opportunity and getting up there, and getting a good sense of who the players are and how we can work to move the organization forward."



Photo submitted

Varouj Eskedjian.

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EVENTS

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NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS (NA) – every Wednesday, 7-8 p.m. in the Boardroom at the Haliburton Hospital. (TFN)

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KIT IS LOST! Friday, Sep. 14, treasured family pet, 9-year old Manx cat, predominantly white with grey and black patches, short bob tail. Lost at Haliburton Veterinary Clinic on Peninsula Drive. Reward – Call 705-447-2266. (TFN)

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Heard something that you think might be news?

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LOST AND FOUND

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A Bidders Form will be available at the Roads Garage. All bids are due at 3:00 pm on Monday, November 19th, 2012 and must be submitted using the Bidders Form in a sealed envelope marked "Surplus Equipment".

For further information, please contact
Dave Walker at (705) 457-1830.

OBITUARIES

Aileen Tosh

(Resident of Haliburton, Ontario)



Peacefully at Haliburton Hospital on Thursday morning, November 1, 2012 in her 84th year. Beloved wife of Ernest Tosh (2004). Loving mother of Suzanne (Steve McCombs) of Whitefish Falls, Carol (William Roberts) of Lancaster, Ohio & Jacque (Paul Borthwick) of Bowmanville. Fondly remembered by her grandchildren Douglas, Jennifer (Al), Elisha, Joshua, Thomas and by her great grandson Carter.

Predeceased by her sister Fay. Also lovingly remembered by her nieces and nephews. Aileen enjoyed line dancing, lunches, outings and her family.

Visitation, Funeral Service & Reception

Friends were invited to call at the HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario 705-457-9209 on Monday morning, November 5, 2012 from 10 o'clock until time of Funeral Service in the Chapel at 11 o'clock. As expressions of sympathy, donations to the Heart & Stroke Foundation would be appreciated by the family.

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Highlander food



Photos submitted
Curtis Fielding and his wife Heidi
enjoy the perks of being the
'Grape King'.



Recognition tastes sweet

By Mark Arke

Being named the 56th "Grape King" comes with its perks.

"I got a jacket, great big chains that I have to wear to official functions... a cheque from Farm Credit Canada and a trip out to the Okanagan in May," said Curtis Fielding, the man who was recently given that noteworthy title for excellence in viticulture in 2012.

The honour was bestowed upon him by Farm Credit Canada, the Grape Growers of Ontario and the Niagara Grape and Wine Festival.

"It's a pretty cool honour," he said.

Fielding is the 34-year-old general manager of Fielding Estate Winery in Beamsville. But he spent his childhood years right here, in the Haliburton Highlands.

"I grew up in Minden," he said. "My parents still have a place up in Haliburton. I try to get up as much as I can."

Fielding recalls attending Archie Stouffer Elementary School as well as Haliburton Highlands Secondary School (HHSS). During those years he was into sports, including football, hockey and soccer.

"I had a great time. I still call Minden home."

When Fielding finished at HHSS, he obtained a diploma at Georgian College in the automotive marketing business program. He then moved to a small town called Petrolia, near Samia, and began working on a stock car race team. He also raced stock cars in his spare time.

Fielding remembers storing one of his vehicles near a cash crop farm. That's when he discovered what would become his future passion.

"When I wasn't fixing the car from crashes or the motor having troubles, I used to go out and help my friends on the cash crop farm. I really got the farming bug then."

At the time, his father was operating a business in Minden. With his retirement years approaching, he told his son that he had a desire to do something different.

"He was looking at doing a winery and buying a farm in Beamsville. He wondered if I was interested in moving down. I jumped at the opportunity and moved down to Niagara."

The family purchased a 20-acre peach and pear orchard on the Beamsville Bench in 2001. They removed what was there and planted vinifera vines to get their operation started. The Fielding Wine Lodge opened its doors in May 2005. The business also includes a 40-acre farm in Beamsville, which supplies all the grapes needed to meet the winery's demand.

As the Grape King, Fielding is the ambassador for the Grape Growers of Ontario for the current year. This means he represents over 500 growers in the province who produce over 17,000 acres of grapes.

"It's a huge honour for down in Niagara. When I moved down there I learned who the grape kings were. These are farmers that have been down there for years and years. It's passed on through generations."

According to a press release, the Grape Growers of Ontario have installed a Grape King each year since 1956, selecting the grape grower judged to have maintained the best vineyard in the province while being able to serve as a representative and ambassador for the industry.

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Highlander sports



Above: Storm #97 Cassidy Garbutt moves the puck into the Lynx zone with #20 Maddie Billings assisting. Right: Storm #16 Kenndal Marsden and #19 Kelsey Maracle storm the net.

Lynx brave the Storm, win 4-0

By Warren Riley

The Girls Storm Midget 'BB' Hockey team played the Lindsay Lynx on Nov. 6 and went down to defeat 4-0.

The teams were well-matched with action at both ends. Opportunities by both clubs didn't go unanswered. The Storm showed aggressive back-checking while their defense kept the Lynx at bay. Several shots on goal by the Lynx were 'bouncers' eluding the Storm's goalie Connor Marsden.

Coach Dan Marsden was disappointed with the game's result.

"We played a little flat," he said. "There was one nice goal they had. Other than that they were nothing but bouncers. They [the pucks] were bouncing here behind the net and bouncing in the slot and a little turnover there."

The game was fast paced with aggressive and hard

checking by both teams. Penalties were limited to two which demonstrated a clean and friendly competition.

The score at the end of the second period was 3-0 Lynx, which for most teams would be disheartening. Not for Storm's #16 Kenndal Marsden and #19 Kelsey Maracle. Both girls took advantage of good lead passes and turnovers which allowed for several breakaways, but unfortunately a goal wasn't in the cards. Storm's #8 Erin Little and her sister #17 Jamie Little were outstanding in their defence against the Lynx.

Marsden thought the game was closer than 4-0.

"They are a good club. I'll put them in the top three in our loop any day. No real weaknesses; their goalie plays strong and they have a strong team. I would say that will be our team in two years."

Marsden expressed encouragement and further practice for

his team.

"We didn't play one of our better games today," he said. "But, lots of good things are happening. We're trying to build on things and we haven't had a lot of practices lately. The girls are playing well; they're playing aggressively and we are trying to use the things that we teach them in practice."

"We do a lot of coaching from the bench so after every shift when the girls come off the ice, we either say 'good player' or 'bad player' or what we could improve on and we've done that from the get go."

The Storm might have lost this game but Marsden's confidence and determination are engrained in the club's attitude.

The Storm's next game will be a double header on Nov. 10 against North Durham at Scugog and Clarington Curtis.



Highlander sports

Basketball star making dreams a reality

By Warren Riley

In order to be successful, one must first personally identify what success means. Persistence, fortitude and morality are just some of the basic ingredients. For Red Hawks basketball player #33 Kayla Shore, these essentials are part and parcel of her motivation.

Shore is relentless in perfecting her basketball skills. On the court, she consistently shows her talent by intercepting the ball, dribbling it to other end, stopping on a dime and giving her opponents nine cents change. Her outstanding agility is also demonstrated by effortlessly lobbing the ball at the hoop from the three-point line and scoring.

Shore plays left-wing on her team and when asked what that position entails she responded "basically to be the 'snake in the grass' and steal the ball."

As with any sport, being a qualified player takes time.

"I've played for the high school's basketball team for two years but never got the chance to really play until this year," Shore said. "I had to prove to the team that I was a valuable player and could actually play."

Shore unequivocally proved her capabilities and became one of the team's most outstanding players.

At 17 years old, Shore has the aspirations of becoming an entrepreneur and being her own boss. Being independent and

self-supporting are the main reasons Shore has been particular in her chosen subjects.

"I'm taking auto tech and small business," she said.

Shore feels that having hands-on experience can be adapted to everyday experiences which might help her break through the glass ceiling.

"Automotive tech basically allows you to update yourself and learn about [the] mechanics which can be applied to everyday life," she added. "Down the road if I have a problem, I want to know that I can fix something myself and not rely on somebody else and I can use that as an advantage."

"In the beginning I took small business because I was interested in owning my own company and having the standards [which are involved] in actually running a small business; the different people you need or what skills you need. The fact of [hiring] management and [securing] the financing is interesting to me."

Shore is adamant in maintaining high marks. Upon graduation, she hopes to enter the military furthering her education in the field of Criminal Justice and Service (CJS). Albeit a wide contrast in direction, she feels CJS and auto tech will be symbiotic fields in the military enhancing her success once she enters the world of business.

Athletes to watch



Photo by Warren Riley

Shore has the determination and mettle to become a successful entrepreneur and businesswoman. The combination of common sense and foresight is a one-two punch for Shore; her dream today will inevitably become a reality tomorrow.

Red Hawks rammed by Kenner

By Warren Riley

The game went end to end but the HHSS Girls Red Hawks Senior Basketball Team couldn't make the grade.

The Red Hawks played valiantly but the end result was a win for the KCVI Rams. The loss ended the season for the Red Hawks.

Although disappointed with the outcome, Coach Sharon Dibblee was proud of her team's performance.

"The girls played hard and put their every effort into each game," she commented. "It was a back and forth game and our girls controlled the play for the first half."

An impressive effort by #1 Casey Pringle, #2 Kayla Gardiner and #33 Kayla Shore almost kept the game in check. Romina Sabando Pinargote, #10, helped to dominate her court time with steals, excellent passing and jump-shots but it wasn't enough to defeat the Rams.

The Red Hawks fell short on their rebound opportunities contributing to the loss. With the clock ticking down, the Rams surged ahead of the Red Hawks with three unanswered hoops. The final score was 29-36 Rams.



Photo by Warren Riley

Casey Pringle leads the charge against the Rams.

It's the end of the season for the HHSS Girls Basketball Team but the players can hold their heads up high. Their overall dedication and determination exceeded the coach's goals. With several of this year's team members leaving for college or university, Dibblee is looking forward to next year and another season of basketball.

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HALIBURTON COUNTY'S INDEPENDENT PAPER
TheHighlander

Highlander sports

Rival towns clash in friendly bonspiel

By Warren Riley

Ah, the bagpipes. For some it's a waste of the human breath and makes a piercing noise. For others, the sound of the pipes will conjure up memories.

On Nov. 7 the playing of the bagpipes introduced the team members of the Minden/Haliburton Seniors Mixed Bonspiel at the Haliburton Arena. Curling allows a player to throw a stone or 'rock' down the ice and knock the opponent's rock out of the 'house'.

Tom Parish is responsible for this year's spiel and explained the cordial match between the towns of Minden and Haliburton.

"It started in 1986 as a friendly rivalry," he said. "Actually, some of the people that curled in Haliburton are now curling in Minden so it adds to the fun."

"Originally, they [the teams] were piped onto the ice so we have gone back to the original tradition as of last year. We have become more formal than we were before. That is what we are looking for to have a friendly rivalry and a lot of fun and go back to our original curling game."

When asked if curling included a penalty box for a rambunctious senior, Parish was confident there were no altercations between the towns.

"No, there won't be any fights, just a lot of fun," he said. "As you can tell by the friendly laughter and chat it's more a



day of fun. We want to attract and encourage new curlers that have never curled in the spiel to come out and get involved. It's a friendly environment and winning is secondary. We want them to come out and just have a good day."

The purpose of the spiel is unknown according to Parish. "No one really seems to know because we don't have anyone from when the first bonspiel was held. Last year we did a lot of research and there wasn't anyone to tell us."

At the end of the bonspiel, a trophy will be presented to the winning town.

"We [Haliburton] just got the trophy back last year," Parish commented. "We have another trophy for the team scoring the highest number of points. We are making it a little more competitive in a fun way and hoping that Haliburton County is exposed to curling."

This round's winner was the town of Haliburton with 115 points. Minden came a close second with 108-1/4.

Now the tournament heads back to Minden in early 2013 for another round of games. Whichever town accumulates the most points over the two bonspiels wins the trophy and bragging rights for another year.



Photos by Warren Riley

Above left: Barry Fimon and Betty Gooard sweeping a rock delivery. Above: Barbara Millington sweeping a spinner.

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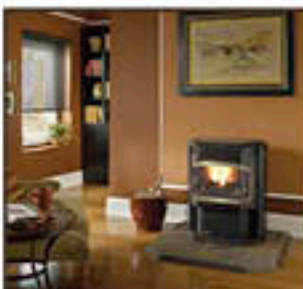


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Highlander sports

Winter games committee seeks \$275,000 in support

By Lisa Harrison

The county's 2015 Ontario 55+ Winter Games bid has been submitted under a proposed budget of \$620,000, of which \$205,000 must come from grants and sponsorships and another \$70,000 from in-kind donations to keep the county off the hook.

Chief Administrative Officer Jim Wilson reported at council's Oct. 24 meeting the budget covers accommodation, meals, salaries, transportation, the ceremonies and other items. The amount is based on the 2011 games figure of \$605,000, including \$75,000 in value-in-kind donations from local businesses, with adjustments for changes in inflation and within expenditure categories.

The host community must cover any operating deficit on the bi-annual event.

Sport Alliance Ontario (SAO) guarantees \$200,000 and another \$145,000 is based on projected registration of 900 participants based on 2011 numbers. Upon receiving bid approval, the organizing committee will immediately begin seeking grants, sponsorships and value-in-kind donations, said Wilson.

"I think there's an understanding here that we can't just keep hammering the small businesses in the county over and over again for the same thing," said Warden Murray Fearrey. "And I think... we're trying to get them here a day early so they have some time to spend in the community because when

they come in and they just start going to events they don't have time to go anywhere."

The 2015 bid was prepared by Alan Clark, 2011 games chair, who said this week he thinks the county's chances of winning the games are "very good." Clark said the first submission deadline passed without a bid and "word got back" to the Haliburton committee in case the county wanted to submit a bid under the extended deadline.

If the county's bid is approved, the organizing committee will again apply for grants from the Ontario Trillium Foundation, the New Horizons for Seniors Program and the Haliburton County Development Corporation, said Clark, adding the committee can begin immediately this time (most 2011 members are returning).

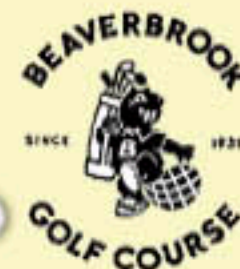
"I think we'll at least get a fair audience because we performed so well and did what we said we would do [with the grants] last time."

Clark said a recent study showed SAO and the Ontario Senior Games Association are the natural fit to seek sponsorships from corporations focused on the 55+ age range. That leaves the organizing committee to create packages to entice other corporate sponsors; for example, Bell provided communications support in 2011.

The bid deadline was Oct. 30. A site visit to bidder locations is tentatively scheduled for the week of Dec. 3. The winning bid will be announced during the Huntsville games, Feb. 26-28.

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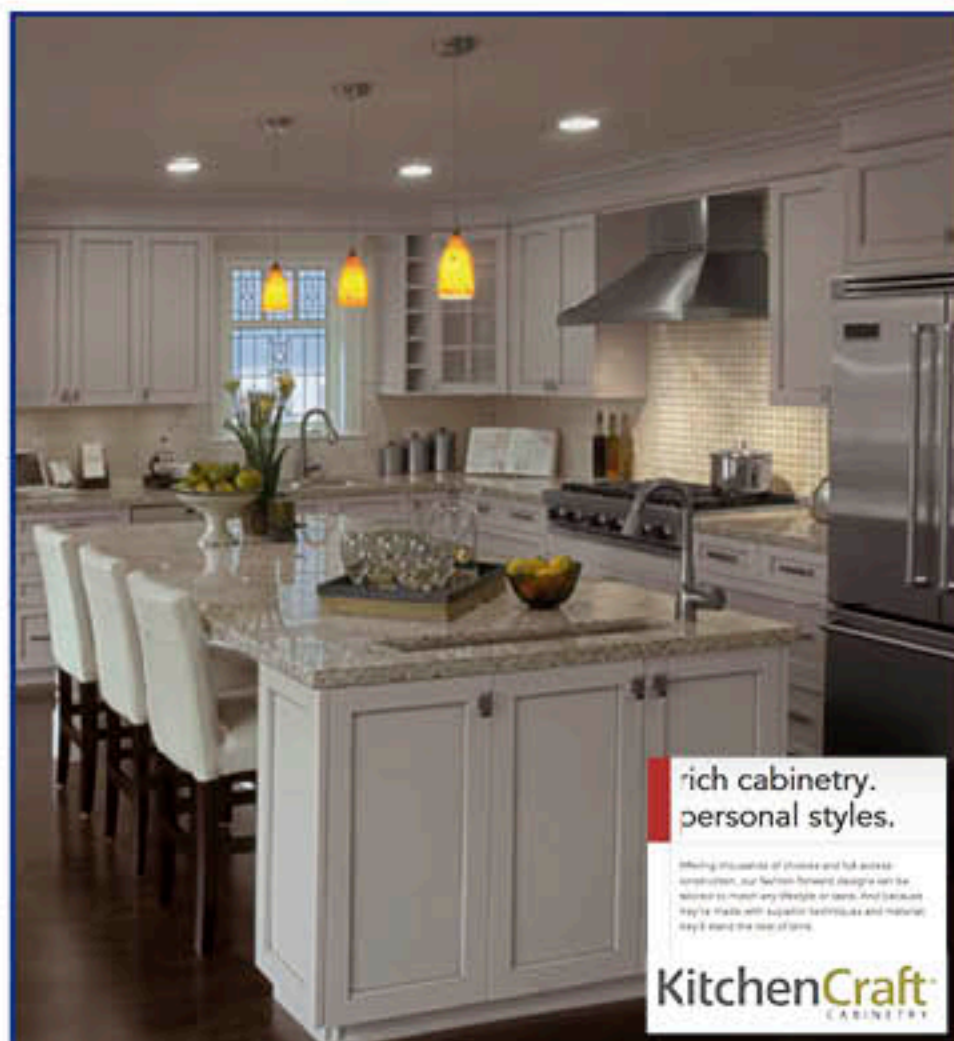
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Highlander events

NOVEMBER EVENTS CALENDAR

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
 8	Cribbage - (every Friday) - Community Care @ 1 p.m., 705-457-2941 Liver Health and Hepatitis C Clinic - Haliburton Highlands Family Health Team (7217 Gelert Road) from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.	Christmas craft and bake sale - West Guilford Community Centre @ 9 a.m., 705-754-2516 Gooderham's Crafty Christmas Sale - McCausland Community Centre @ 10:00 a.m., hot lunch available @ noon	REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICES Haliburton: @ 10:00 a.m. - Church service in Legion hall @ 10:45 a.m. - March to cenotaph for laying of wreaths Minden: @ 11:00 a.m. - Service at The Cairn. Wilberforce: @ 10:45 a.m. - Cenotaph @ 11:00 a.m. - Service @ 12:00 p.m. - Lunch at the branch (by donation)
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	
Contract Bridge - (every Monday) - Community Care @ 1 p.m., 705-457-2941	100.9 CanoeFM Bingo - (every Tuesday) @ 8 p.m., 705-457-1009 Wii Bowling - (every Tuesday) - Community Care @ 9:00 a.m., 705-457-2941	Community Drum Circle - (every Wednesday) - Rails End Gallery @ 6:30 p.m., 705-457-2330 Highlands Quilt Guild Meeting - Stanhope Community Centre @ 10 a.m. (pre-meeting) & 1 p.m. (meeting)	11
FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Cribbage - (every Friday) - Community Care @ 1 p.m., 705-457-2941 Liver Health and Hepatitis C Clinic - Haliburton Highlands Family Health Team (7217 Gelert Road) from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.	Heritage Turkey Supper - Highland Grove Community Center (6323 Loop Road), 705-448-9546 Snowflake Bizarre - Haliburton Legion @ 9 a.m., 705-754-3319 Mini Buck Bid Euchre - Bobcaygeon Senior Centre @ 7 p.m., 705-738-6271	 18	Contract Bridge - (every Monday) - Community Care @ 1 p.m., 705-457-2941
TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
100.9 CanoeFM Bingo @ 8 p.m., 705-457-1009 Wii Bowling - Community Care @ 9:00 a.m., 705-457-2941 Meet the Nurse - Ontario Early Years Centre (83 Maple Avenue) @ 10 a.m., 705-457-1391	Community Drum Circle - (every Wednesday) - Rails End Gallery @ 6:30 p.m., 705-457-2330 Flu shot clinic - Lloyd Watson Memorial Centre (2240 Loop Road) from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	Haliburton County Historical Society meeting - Zion United Church @ 1:30 p.m. New issue of The Highlander hits the streets, pick up your copy at over 80 locations!	Cribbage - (every Friday) - Community Care @ 1 p.m., 705-457-2941

WHAT'S GOING ON AT YOUR LOCAL LEGION?

Haliburton Branch (705-457-2671) Bid Euchre, every Wednesday @ 1 p.m. Bingo, every Wednesday @ 7 p.m. Minden Branch (705-738-6271) Lunch menu, every Monday to Friday from noon - 2 p.m. Bid Euchre, every Tuesday @ 1 p.m. Meat Draw, every Wednesday @ lunchtime	Euchre, every Thursday @ 7:30 p.m. Radio Club, every Friday @ 10 a.m. Fish & Chips, every Friday from 5-7 p.m. Cards, every Friday @ 7:30 p.m. NFL on the big screen, every Sunday (food available) @ 12 p.m. Wilberforce Branch (705-448-2221) Pool, every Friday @ 1:30 p.m. Jam Session, every Friday @ 7 p.m.	Meat Draw, every Friday @ 2 p.m. Remembrance Day Service, Sunday, November 11 starting @ 10:45 a.m. Bid Euchre, every Wednesday @ 7 p.m. Darts, every Wednesday @ 7:30 p.m. General Meeting, Tuesday, November 13 @ 7:00 p.m. <i>*Please note that the L.A. breakfast will be cancelled this month due to Remembrance Day services.</i>
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ACROSS

1. Clamorous
5. Run after
10. Poetic lament
14. Besides that
15. Hair dye
16. Dress for Caesar
17. Bowl
18. Register
19. Kith part
20. Medicinal amount
22. Give a right to
24. Mend
27. Longs (for)
28. Actress ____ Davis
31. Aromatic herb
33. Hawaiian island
34. Yet, to a poet
35. Confidential
40. Ingest too much
42. Form again

DOWN

2. Butter substitute
3. Employs
4. Act of leaving
5. Chick's comment
6. Chick's mom
7. Pinnin past
8. Expresses scorn
9. Work for
10. Storage room
11. Reluctant
12. Nimble
13. Shoppers' delights
21. ____ whiz?
23. Yams
25. Aid and ____
26. Actor ____ McKellen
28. Cowboy's shoe
29. Icicle's spot
30. Now and ____
32. Words of comprehension (2 wds.)

ACROSS

43. Religious beliefs
44. Actress Sandra ____
45. Similar
46. Wading bird
48. Choose by vote
49. View
53. Authentic
55. Emphasizes
57. ____ Rico
61. Fibber
62. Religious images
65. Christmas word
66. Snaky fishes
67. Singer ____ Osmond
68. Delight
69. Family chart
70. Nodded off
71. Graceful trees

DOWN

1. Indecent
34. Alleviate
36. Test of one's abilities
37. Lawn tool
38. Heroic
39. Camp shelter
41. Revolutionary ____ Allen
42. Apartment expense
44. Medic
47. Mischievous one
48. Water, to Jacques
49. Clothing stand
50. Colder
51. Piano exercise
52. Brief
54. Troubled
56. Robbins and Allen
58. Rock's partner
59. Be abundant
60. Bulking cheers
63. Raw mineral
64. Playful bite

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community event to
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Puzzle 1 (Medium, difficulty rating 0.52)

6	2	7	4	8	3	5	9	1
4	9	3	6	5	1	8	2	7
8	1	5	9	7	2	4	3	6
9	7	8	3	1	4	2	6	5
3	4	1	5	2	6	9	7	8
5	6	2	8	9	7	3	1	4
1	5	4	2	6	9	7	8	3
2	8	6	7	3	5	1	4	9
7	3	9	1	4	8	6	5	2

D	I	S	C	T	I	L	L	R	I	V	A	L
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T	E	S	T	S	N	E	A	R	E	A	T	S

Highlander events



Paramedic celebrated at retirement party

By Matthew Desrosiers

After 33 years of service, Ian Douglas has retired from the Haliburton County Ambulance Service.

He started his paramedic career in May 1979.

Formerly a small engines mechanic and surveyor, Douglas applied for a job with the municipality at the time, supervising the building of Head Lake Park.

Unbeknownst to him, however, was that if you worked for the municipality you were expected to volunteer to work in an ambulance or for the fire department.

"They decided for me that I was a candidate for ambulance," he said. "That's what got me started."

Douglas and his co-workers began taking courses, eventually getting their college diplomas and certification.

"I never would have dreamed I'd be doing this for a living," he said. "It sort of evolved into a very rewarding career."

Despite the challenges of working shifts, he said he enjoyed his time.

"It's a very humbling, self-gratifying job," Douglas said. "Helping people makes you

feel good. Where's the down side?"

Throughout his time as a paramedic, he has seen the team grow from a volunteer-based group to the organization it is today, with over 24 full-time staff, three day ambulance crews and two night crews.

His co-workers, friends and family got together at the Wild Moose on Oct. 27 to celebrate his career.

"It's a little overwhelming," he said. "I've been very fortunate over the years to have excellent partners and people to work with. I've learned a lot over the years, a lot about myself. I regret nothing."

Looking back on his career, it's hard for Douglas to choose a most memorable moment.

"I couldn't say. I've had a lot. A lot of good memories, some tragic. A lot of good people."

Douglas's last day was Sept. 27. He was on the road until he retired.

"[I just want to] thank everybody for the support and help over the years, my family for their understanding for all the missed family functions and re-organized birthday and Christmas meals," he said. "It's part of the job."

"I wouldn't have had it any other way."

Photo by Matthew Desrosiers

Ian Douglas retired on Sept. 27 after three decades as a Haliburton paramedic.

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Rentals

Highlander technology

On the set with local talent

By Mark Arke

The Haliburton Highlands is full of talented performers, both young and old. Their talents span a wide range of specialties, including dance, theatre, music and film.

In my high school years at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School, the stage was where I was most at ease (although I had to overcome butterflies in the stomach numerous times). Well, I'm way past those years and haven't paid much attention to the local casting calls due to my hectic work schedule.

But just over two weeks ago, a posting on Facebook made me embrace spontaneity. It read: "Actors wanted. Calling all locals. We're putting together a short business piece for a client and are looking for a number of people to 'act' in it."

Charlie Teljeur, a Facebook friend and creative director for Bent Nose Media (BNM), had put up the posting. I dropped whatever I was doing and was compelled to immediately respond. What kind of role would I play? Would the paparazzi be there? What about a red carpet – and those pesky fashionistas with their questions about who I'm wearing? These were all questions that whirled through my mind.

To avoid embarrassment, I didn't ask Charlie any of those questions. First things first: What's this commercial all about?

"The video is just about the nightmares of having so many providers for all your IT, web and phone services," Charlie explained. "It's fast-paced and cuts from the business owner (the one experiencing all the frustration) to his providers – so we need both him and these inept people who can't seem to do the job properly."

It sure sounded like this would be a hoot. And that it was.

Without even having to go through a rigorous audition process, I landed the role of a slick but corny salesman.

"You're the slick sales type who talks a lot but says nothing," said Charlie.

Sounds like some easy shoes to fill, I responded. I often talk too much in real life and half that time is spent communicating to my computer (which never seems to listen).

The shoot took place on Nov. 3 at Patient News. The original plan was to film in the GTA, but "logistics made more sense if we could get a great varied location," said Charlie. Wayne Lavery, CEO of Patient News, provided Charlie the building for the day to get the shoot done.

Before it was my time to hog the spotlight, I observed the first shoot which starred Canoe FM's production engineer



Photo by Mark Arke

The camera focuses on Ron Murphy, production engineer at Canoe FM, who recently starred in a commercial produced by Bent Nose Media.

Ron Murphy. All I have to say is look out Hollywood! He didn't have to remember any lines for the part, but his body language and facial expressions would get him two thumbs up from Ebert.

"All I can say is that it was a real different experience compared to radio," said Ron. "In radio it's all about how you sound and in the filming it was all about how I rolled my eyes! I do that all the time on the radio, but no one sees it!"

Ron also discovered the call for local actors via Charlie's Facebook status.

"I thought I was too old, but they gave the old guy a break," he joked.

Randy and Sue MacDonald, two Haliburton residents who are husband and wife, also responded to the Facebook request. With some previous experience of being on camera, both were rather comfortable with the roles they had to fulfill.

"It was a blast," said Randy, who played the frustrated business owner.

What made their time on set even easier was working with Charlie and Brad Brown, the shoot's director of photography.

"The guys were unbelievably well-organized and professional," said Randy. "I think it's good that we've got these professional film guys here in the community."

When asked what he thought of the local talent, which also included actors Jen Browning, Conner Brandon and Earl Johnson, Charlie was quick to give praise.

"I knew most of them well enough to ensure at least a passable product, but was actually blown away at how everyone picked it up," he said. "They made us look good. I mean that sincerely. I loved how everyone warmed up to it. Everyone of course starts slowly, but once the scenario is set up and they get an emotional feel they all learned quickly."

Using local actors is something he would love to do again. "As for [having] a use for people for future projects, we'd definitely like to utilize the people and resources in Haliburton. It makes so much sense on a lot of fronts. One of our goals with BNM is to prove you can have a show biz business in an area like this as long you have dedication, talent and support, and it seems like we've got it all up here."

So, the past few weeks have been full of firsts for me. Red high heels, spinning and now my first crack at fame.

You probably were hoping I was going to give away my scene. Sorry, but you're going to have to wait for the final cut.

I think it's good that we've got these professional film guys here in the community.

Randy MacDonald

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Highlander technology

The Computer Guy

Worth repeating

The first thing I wrote about when I started with the Highlander was the phone scam that was circulating in the area for the last couple of years. Unfortunately eight months later it's still going on and people are still falling for it.

It usually starts with a phone call from someone who claims to be from Microsoft or a company associated with them. They will tell you that your Windows license has expired or your anti-virus license has expired or your computer is full of errors etc. ... Next they ask for permission to take control of your computer to verify what they are telling you. Then they ask for money to renew your license or to fix your computer. If you don't pay, then they lock you out and put a password on your system so you can't get back in.

Let's get something straight. Microsoft will never, ever, ever call you!

Microsoft sells billions of operating systems worldwide and would not have the resources or the time to monitor people's computers. Your Windows license will never expire. When you buy your computer with it preloaded or you purchase the software privately, it's good for life. If you're using a free anti-virus such as Microsoft Security Essentials, it never expires. If you bought your anti-virus software then it's up to you

to renew it when it runs out, usually in a year. The company will never phone you and ask you to renew it.

When they tell you that your computer is full of errors, then after they take control, they will show you the "Event Viewer" which always has errors in it. Everybody's computer has some errors when running and for the most part they are insignificant, but if you don't know what you're looking at, you could become worried that your system is in bad need of fixing. Also while they have control of your computer they are searching for bank log in information, credit card numbers, and so on.

If you get a phone call from these scammers, let them know right away you're not interested and if they keep persisting then you will contact the police. Most of the time this will get them to hang up and not call you back. Unfortunately there is more than one of these rip off artists out there and you may get another call from someone else, in which case just follow the same procedure.

For questions or comments, e-mail me at computerguy@haliburtonhighlander.ca
Happy and safe computing.



By David Spaxman

Festival of Trees

15th Annual **November 8-11**



Special Events

NEW THIS YEAR: Festival Roast Beef Dinner
Friday, November 9 - 5pm-9pm
(2 sittings at 5pm & 7pm)
\$12 per person

Children's Magical Morning
Saturday, November 10 - 9:00 am - 11:00 am
\$10 Adults, \$5 Children under 12.
Admission to the Festival Incl. Breakfast Only \$4

Twilight Auction
Saturday, November 10 - 7:30 pm sharp
Pre-registrations: 7:00 pm Murphy Barn
General Admission: \$6.00, Children under 12: \$2.00
Children under 2: Free

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Event Sponsor: 



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2013 XF 800 SNOWPRO LIMITED



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